(a) whether Government had signed Ganga Water Treaty with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether the issue of Tipaimukh dam project remain unresolved with Bangladesh;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to have bilateral discussions with Bangladesh and to resolve the Tipaimukh dam project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes. India and Bangladesh signed a treaty on sharing of the Ganga Waters at Farakka on 12th December, 1996.

(b) to (d) Government of India has shared information on the Tipaimukh Dam Project with the Government of Bangladesh. The Government has also invited a Bangladesh Parliamentary Delegation to visit India in this connection.

Stockpile of nuclear weapons by Pakistan

2142. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Pakistan has been increasing its stockpile of nuclear weapons and crossing its minimum deterrent threshold;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on such reports of Pakistan;

(c) whether stockpiling of nuclear weapons by Pakistan is causing grave concern for India; and

(d) if so, the preventive/counter steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes. Government has seen reports in the public domain that Pakistan is enhancing its nuclear weapons production capacity.

(b) to (d) Government monitors all such developments which have a bearing on national security and is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the nation's security.

New treaty with Nepal

2143. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the current political crisis in Nepal, India and its Himalayan neighbours are considering to review their 60 years old trade treaty as India Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950;